

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A method for making a liner joint of a refractory, corrosion-resistant and/or abrasion-resistant lining, comprising the steps of:
 - providing a first substantially cylindrical structure of the liner material having an inside surface and an inside diameter;
 - providing a second substantially cylindrical structure of the liner material having a first end, having an inside diameter smaller than the inside diameter of the first structure, and having an outside diameter;
 - creating a cavity in the first structure having a diameter equal to or larger than the outside diameter of the second structure;
 - shaping the first end of the second structure to be substantially identical to the shape of the created cavity; and
 - inserting the shaped first end of the second structure into the created cavity of the first structure.
2. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the created cavity is off-center such that the inserting step forms a tangential inlet or tangential outlet with respect to a flow of fluids in the first structure.
3. (Original) A method for making a liner joint of a refractory, corrosion-resistant and/or abrasion-resistant lining, comprising the steps of:
 - providing a first substantially cylindrical structure of the liner material having an inside surface and an inside diameter;
 - providing second and third substantially cylindrical structures of the liner material, each structure having a first end, an inside diameter smaller than the inside diameter of the first structure and an outside diameter;
 - creating two cavities in the first structure, each created cavity having a diameter equal to or larger than the outside diameter of the second structure;

shaping the first ends of the second and third structures to be substantially identical to the shapes of the created cavities; and

inserting each shaped first end into a created cavity.

4. (Original) A method according to Claim 3, wherein the created cavities are off-center such that the inserting step forms a tangential inlet and a tangential outlet with respect to a flow of fluids in the first structure.

5. (Currently amended) A lined pipe or vessel, including:

a) a liner joint of a refractory, corrosion-resistant and/or abrasion-resistant material, which joint comprises

a substantially cylindrical body section having an inside diameter, and

a tangential inlet or tangential outlet inserted into a cavity in the body section and having an inside diameter smaller than the body section's inside diameter; and

b) a pipe or vessel in which the liner joint is placed, characterized in that neither the body section nor the tangential inlet or outlet are joined to the pipe or vessel.

6. (Currently amended) A lined pipe or vessel, including:

a) a liner joint of a refractory, corrosion-resistant and/or abrasion-resistant material, which joint comprises:

a substantially cylindrical body section having an inside diameter,

a tangential inlet inserted into a first cavity in the body section and having an inside diameter smaller than the body's inside diameter, and

a tangential outlet inserted into a second cavity in the body section and having an inside diameter smaller than the body's inside diameter; and

b) a pipe or vessel in which the liner joint is placed, characterized in that none of the body section, tangential inlet and tangential outlet are joined to the pipe or vessel.

7. (New) A method for making a liner joint of a refractory, corrosion-resistant and/or abrasion-resistant lining, comprising the steps of:

providing a first substantially cylindrical structure of the liner material having an

inside surface and an inside diameter;

providing second and third substantially cylindrical structures of the liner material, each structure having a first end, an inside diameter smaller than the inside diameter of the first structure and an outside diameter;

creating a first cavity in the first structure having a diameter equal to or larger than the outside diameter of the second structure;

creating a second cavity in the first structure having a diameter equal to or larger than the outside diameter of the third structure;

shaping the first end of the second structure to be substantially identical to the shape of the created first cavity;

shaping the first end of the third structure to be substantially identical to the shape of the created second cavity;

inserting the shaped first end of the second structure into the created first cavity; and

inserting the shaped first end of the third structure into the created second cavity.

8. (New) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the created cavities are off-center such that the inserting step forms a tangential inlet and a tangential outlet with respect to a flow of fluids in the first structure.

9. (New) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the creating steps are performed by removing plugs from the first structure.

10. (New) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the shaping steps are performed by removing plugs from the second structure

11. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the creating step is performed by removing a plug from the first structure.

12. (New) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the shaping step is performed by removing a plug from the second structure.

13. (New) A method according to Claim 3, wherein the creating step is performed by removing plugs from the first structure.

14. (New) A method according to Claim 3, wherein the shaping step is performed by removing plugs from the second structure.

15. (New) A lined pipe or vessel according to Claim 5, wherein the tangential inlet or tangential outlet is removably inserted.

16. (New) A lined pipe or vessel according to Claim 6, wherein the tangential inlet and tangential outlet are removably inserted.